



October 7, 2004

Mr. Craig J. Thomas  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Bathurst Road and Port Committee  
PO Box 820  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2N6

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you for your email of yesterday's date raising concerns about the lack of intervener funding. You suggest that the lack of funding will make it difficult to provide proper input into the EIS process, and that early funding will generally provide a much better review process.

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or the Board) agrees with your comments and will forward your email to the attention of the Ministry of INAC. Also, the Board is aware of a meeting of the Nunavut Implementation Panel in a couple of weeks, and NIRB is copying that Panel with your letter also, in order to make them aware that all parties need their funding requests reviewed and a decision made one way or another so that parties can prepare their submissions. In NIRB's opinion, intervener funding should be the highest priority of that meeting.

In the meantime, NIRB asks you and other parties who are copied with this letter to do your best to comment, even from a laymen's perspective, on the Guidelines. Where you face technical difficulties due to the topic, just note in your submission that you have a concern with one of the 15 subject areas but cannot explain it due to lack of expertise and so on. If you do that, the Board will focus greater attention to that point in its final EIS decision.

I hope this helps, and I thank you for your comments.

Yours truly,

For:

Stephanie Briscoe  
Executive Director

cc. Distribution List